

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 138434
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FOLLOWING IS REPEAT ISLAMABAD 6073, SENT SECSTATE 14 JUNE:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6073

AIDAC

FOR LEVINTOW ASIA/PN FROM WOLFFER

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: WHO OFFICE--PAKISTAN

1. I HAVE LEARNED FROM ACTING WHO REP ZULUETA AND UNDP RESREP EVERTS THAT A DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN TO CLOSE THE WHO REP OFFICE IN PAKISTAN AS OF JUNE 30, 1977. THIS INFORMATION HAS COME BY "CONFIDENTIAL" LETTER TO ZULUETA AND EVERTS FROM WHO REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTOR, DR. TABA OF ALEXANDRIA. ZULUETA DISCUSSED THIS WITH THE D.G. HEALTH WHO HAD BEEN IN GENEVA WITH TABA AND WHO TOLD ZULUETA THAT THIS WAS NOT HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION. OBVIOUSLY WE ARE NOT PRIVY TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS.

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2. I REALIZE THERE ARE LIMITS TO WHAT WE CAN AND SHOULD DO IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE CONCERNED AT WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE ABRUPTNESS OF THIS DECISION AND THE FALL-OUT OF WHICH COULD OCCUR AS A RESULT OF IT. AS YOU KNOW, WHO IS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE MALARIA CONTROL PROJECT. LIKewise, WHO HAS AN INPUT TO THE BASIC HEALTH SERVICES PROJECT. WHILE ONE COULD ARGUE THAT WHO PEOPLE IN PAKISTAN CAN BE

PROJECT-SPECIFIC, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HEALTH FOCAL POINT IN THE UNDP OFFICE, AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE WORK OF A WHO REPRESENTATIVE, WILL TAKE MORE TIME THAN THIS APPARENT ABRUPT DECISION WILL PERMIT AND DECISIONS WILL NOT BE MADE AND WORK WILL SUFFER. WE ALSO WORRY THAT CLOSING THE WHO OFFICE WILL RESULT IN DELAYS IN POLICY AND PROGRAM ACTIONS AS MATTERS HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO ALEXANDRIA FOR DECISION.

3. I HAVE DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH UNDP RESREP EVERTS, WHO, WHILE MAKING NO SPECIAL EFFORT TO KEEP A WHO REPRESENTATIVE, PER SE, AGREES THAT THIS ABRUPT DECISION PROVIDES NO TIME TO PLAN FOR AND MAKE ANY ADJUSTMENTS WHICH MUST ENSUE FROM SUCH A DECISION. EVERTS PLANS TO SEE EAD SECRETARY AFTAB KHAN AND RAISE THE QUESTION OF THE ABRUPTNESS OF THE DECISION. HE WILL SUGGEST THAT AFTAB URGE THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO CABLE WHO GENEVA AND REQUEST IT TO HOLD UP ACTION UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE DECISION. (FOREIGN OFFICE IS FOCAL POINT FOR OVERALL UN ACTIVITY.) I ALSO PLAN TO SEE SECRETARY KHAN ALONG SIMILAR LINES.

4. WE REALIZE WE CANNOT GET INTO PERSONALITIES BUT WE BELIEVE ZULUETA HAS DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB SUPPORTING THE MALARIA CONTROL PROGRAM AND THE BASIC HEALTH SERVICES PROJECT. WE WOULD HOPE HIS EXPERTISE COULD BE CONTINUED HERE.

5. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES ON AN URGENT BASIS WITH A VIEW TO AID REQUESTING WHO GENEVA TO REVIEW THIS DECISION, ITS IMPLICATIONS AND THE WISDOM AND TIMING OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND ANY GUIDANCE YOU MAY HAVE FOR US. MANY THANKS. CONSTABLE UNQUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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